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# WHOLE LHOTA WORK TO DO

New MTA Chairman Joe Lhota will begin his role faced with systemic problems, stressful delays and fed-up riders. 4

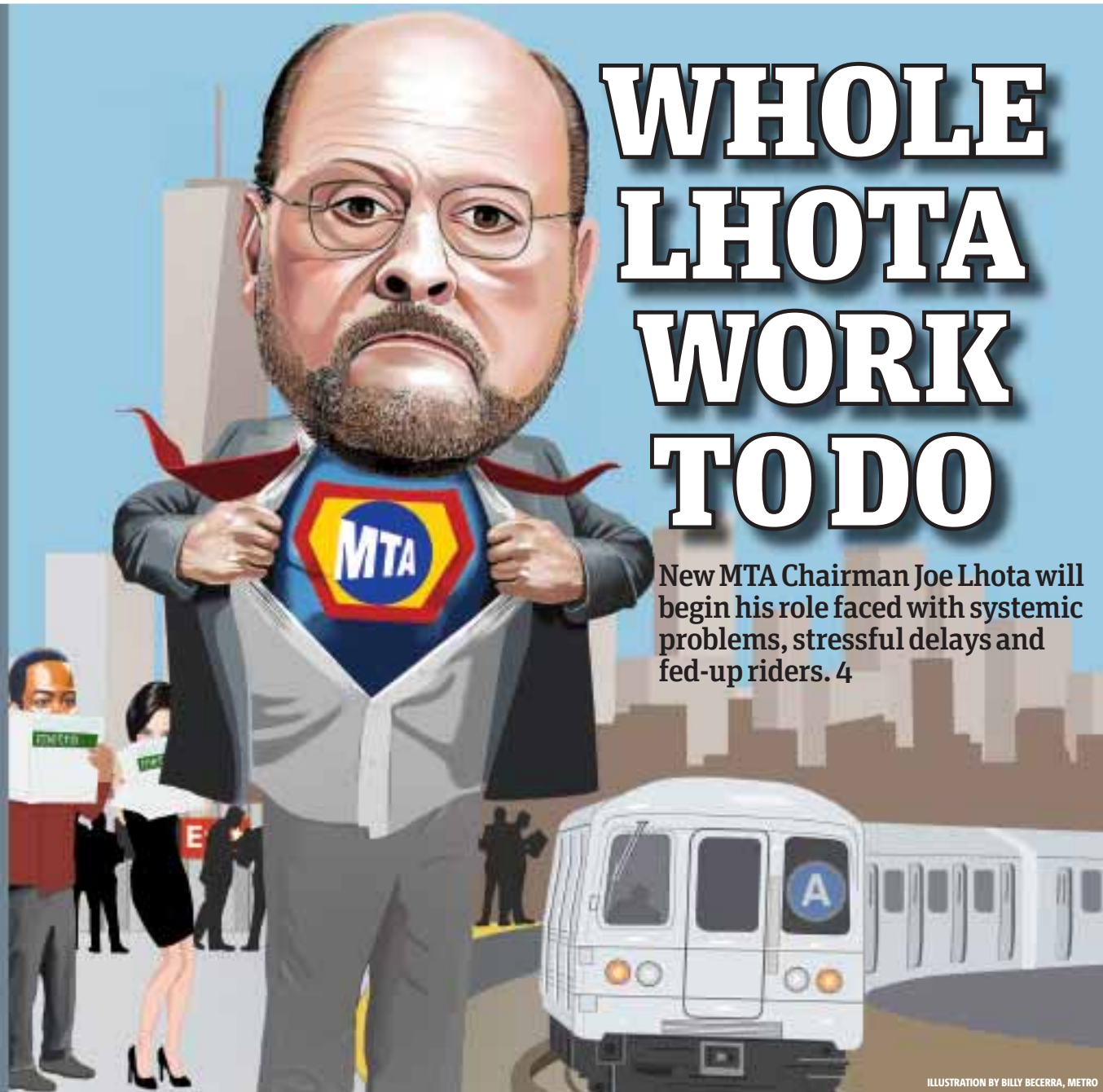


ILLUSTRATION BY BILLY BECERRA, METRO



## TRUMP SAYS HE DID NOT RECORD COMEY

President Donald Trump on Thursday said he did not make and does not possess any tapes of his conversations with former FBI Director James Comey, laying to rest speculation that arose after he tweeted last month that Comey better hope there were no tapes. "With all of the recently reported electronic surveillance, intercepts, unmasking and illegal leaking of information, I have no idea whether there



are 'tapes' or recordings of my conversations with James Comey, but I did not make, and do not have, any such recordings," Trump wrote on Twitter.

## MINNESOTA WILL STILL ENGAGE WITH CUBA

Minnesota's government and businesses will continue to engage with Cuba in the areas they can, like agricultural trade, despite U.S. President Donald Trump's partial rollback of the detente, Lt. Gov. Tina Smith said on Thursday. The first U.S. state representative to make an official visit to Communist-run Cuba since Trump's announcement on Friday, Smith said authorities there

were worried about the setback to bilateral relations. Leading a bipartisan trade delegation from Minnesota, she said she was therefore glad to carry the message that there was still plenty of support for continuing to normalize relations. "There is no denying the actions Trump took last Friday are a real setback," Smith, a Democrat, said in an interview in the gardens of Havana's iconic Hotel Nacional.

## BHARARA SIGNS BOOK DEAL AFTER FIRING

Former Manhattan U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara, who earned a reputation for fighting crime on Wall Street and public corruption before President Donald Trump fired him in March, has signed a book deal with Alfred A. Knopf. The book, as yet untitled, is about "the search for justice, not just in criminal cases but in life and society in general," Knopf said in a statement on Thursday. Publication



is expected in January 2019. Bharara said his book would be about the law, "integrity, leadership, decision making, and moral reasoning." "It addresses what it means to do the right thing, how to avoid doing the wrong thing, and the role of thoughtfulness in making the best choice," Bharara said in a statement.



# 5

## THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW



### SISTINE CHAPEL REPLICAS

Replicas of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel Frescoes are displayed inside of the Oculus at the World Trade Center Transportation Hub on Thursday in New York City. The exhibit contains 34 nearly life-size copies of the Sistine Chapel frescoes in Rome. GETTY IMAGES



## AMAZON TO CHARGE \$2.8M FOR NFL AD PACKAGES

Amazon.com Inc. is looking to charge advertisers \$2.8 million for packages that include 30-second spots during the Thursday night National Football League games it will stream live to its Prime customers this coming season, two people familiar with the matter told Reuters. The offering will be closely watched by the advertising and broadcasting industries as the world's largest online retailer and cloud-

computing company makes its first high-profile push into live sports. Amazon is paying \$50 million to the NFL to stream this season's 10 Thursday night games, sources told Reuters in April. The games will be shown simultaneously on either CBS Corp. or Comcast Corp.'s NBC, which are broadcasting five games each. Amazon takes over from Twitter Inc., which paid \$10 million to stream Thursday night games last season.

## WELCOME TO METRO.US!



KIMBERLY M. AQUILINA, WEB REPORTER  
Brendan Dassey, Steven Avery's nephew featured in the Netflix series "Making a Murderer," should be freed, a three-judge panel ruled, but that doesn't mean Dassey is a free man. Check out the court's ruling at [metro.us/entertainment/tv](http://metro.us/entertainment/tv) and let us know what you think.

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# Who is Joseph Lhota, and why can he save the MTA?



A subway tunnel in the process of having water pumped out due to damage from Hurricane Sandy is seen in lower Manhattan on Nov. 1, 2012. GETTY IMAGES



From implementing the agency's Fastrack program to rebuilding service after Hurricane Sandy, Lhota's done this before.



NIKKI M. MASCALI  
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The embattled MTA is an agency in crisis, but it's going to have a very familiar face helping it figure out how to stop the cycle.

Just hours after acting Executive Director Ronnie Hakim called for a "top to bottom" review of the entire subway system during an MTA board meeting on Wednesday, Gov. Andrew Cuomo tapped former agency head Joe Lhota

as chairman.

Cuomo oversees the MTA, and he appointed Lhota to lead the agency in 2011. Lhota was the MTA CEO and chairman from November 2011 until December 2012. He stepped down to run for New York City mayor on the Republican ticket but was defeated by Democrat Bill de Blasio in the general election.

Since 2014, Lhota has been the senior vice president, vice dean and chief of staff at NYU Langone Medical Center, a role he will keep as chairman of the MTA, according to a statement from Cuomo.

"There is much hard work to be done to address the MTA's current failures, and the level of service and daily frustrations commuters are experiencing are completely unacceptable," Cuomo said. "I know Joe will move to address these issues immediately and ensure a reliable and effective transportation system worthy of the city it serves."

In the statement, Lhota recognized that "this is an incredibly challenging time for the MTA" and promised to "immediately and aggressively tackle the problems the system is facing after decades of disinvestment."

"I know the MTA can do a lot better," he told The New York Times. "There's a lot of basic work we have to get done."

So what makes Joe Lhota a potential savior of the MTA?

It may come down to his past experience. Here are a few things he did during his short tenure with the MTA:

## New York City Transit's Fastrack

Lhota implemented the subway maintenance program in 2012, which suspends train service to give workers uninterrupted access to fix tracks, signals and platforms, etc. In doing so, the agency saw reductions in delays and safety issues like track fires and saved more than \$16 million.

## Service restorations

Under Lhota's leadership, the MTA restored and expanded subway, bus and rail service on nearly 40 lines in 2012. Changes included extending service to underserved neighborhoods, such as a G train extension and adding the first new bus routes since 1999.

## Hurricane Sandy

Prior to the superstorm that devastated many parts of the East Coast in late 2012, Lhota shut down the subway system to move equipment to higher ground and took proactive mea-

## Lhota and de Blasio

Following de Blasio's first subway ride since mid-April last week, the mayor said he'd rather the city handle the subway issues than the MTA if they "will not fix the problem."

Of his former mayoral opponent returning to the MTA, de Blasio said in a statement, "The MTA is at an important crossroads in its mission to serve the millions of New Yorkers who deserve safe, reliable transportation every day. There are few public servants more capable of helping navigate this critical evolution than Joe Lhota. I commend the governor for his choice, and I pledge my administration's cooperation in helping the governor, Chairman Lhota and the MTA meet the needs of New York City subway and bus riders."

sures to protect subway stations. While the MTA did not find itself unscathed by Sandy, with half of the subway system's 14 tunnels flooded, much of the system was running within a few days.

The MTA declined to comment when asked about Lhota's appointment.

*"There is much hard work to be done to address the MTA's current failures, and the level of service and daily frustrations commuters are experiencing are completely unacceptable."*

Gov. Andrew Cuomo



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# For this New York City Pride March grand marshal, 'the work is not done'

This year's Pride march has stronger messages on fighting for equality and social justice.



NIKKI M. MASCALI  
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Krishna Stone loves parades and rallies — so much so that she named her now-22-year-old

daughter Parade.

"It's all about those magnificent demonstrations of love and creativity in activism, the diversity of human beings that show up, the pain, the sorrow — it takes a lot of courage to march," Stone said.

Arguably no other parade epitomizes Stone's statement more than the NYC Pride March — the 48th annual march takes place Sunday as part of the city's Pride Week

celebration.

For nearly two decades, Stone, the director of community relations for the Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), which provides HIV/AIDS advocacy, prevention and care, has acted as a volunteer announcer along the Pride March route. But this year, she's putting down her microphone to stand alongside the American Civil Liberties Union, Brooke Guinan and Geng Le as the march's co-grand marshals.

a different feeling to Pride this year under the Trump administration? The messages are even stronger around fighting for equality and social justice, whether it's gun violence, fighting for the rights of people of color, LGBT youth, human rights in general — it's a stronger presence of social justice messages.

**What, to you, is the biggest issue facing the LGBTQ community under this administration?**

I don't think that there's one, I think there's many major issues such as equality, hate crimes, homophobia, high rates of HIV and AIDS, other health issues, work development, homelessness — there's multiple issues that are major for the LGBT community.

**What is your favorite part of the Pride March?**

My favorite part is just sending out love to thousands and thousands, if not millions, of people, whether they're marching or on the sidelines cheering the marchers on and just sending out a lot of unconditional love. It's an extraordinary feeling to send out all that love for six, seven hours.

As a grand marshal, that is what I will be doing — sending out a lot of love and just saying that we're here to celebrate, we're here to remind each other that the work is not done to fight for full equality.

NYC Pride March kicks off at noon Sunday at Fifth Avenue and 36th Street. For more info, visit [nycpride.org](http://nycpride.org).

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Krishna Stone is a grand marshal of the 48th annual NYC Pride March, which takes place Sunday. **NYC PRIDE**





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Tropical depression Cindy could cause a rainy Saturday for the New York metro region. GETTY IMAGES

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## A storm named Cindy could disrupt your Saturday

Cindy, now a tropical depression, dropped 10 inches of rain on the Gulf Coast on Thursday.



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If you were looking forward to spending some time outside Saturday, you might want to make alternative plans for the early part of the day, as tropical depression Cindy is expected to cause thunderstorms across the New York metro region, forecasters said.

Before being downgraded to a depression, Cindy hit southwestern Louisiana early Thursday as a powerful tropical storm that dropped between 2 and 10 inches of rain along the Gulf Coast and left a 10-year-old boy dead after he was hit by debris, NBC4 reported.

The difference be-

tween a tropical depression and a tropical storm is that a depression has a sustained surface wind speed of 38 mph or less, while a tropical storm's wind ranges from 39 mph to 73 mph, according to the National Hurricane Center.

Remnants of Cindy could start being felt in the Northeast on Friday, which could see scattered showers and thunderstorms and a muggy high near 83, the National Weather Service predicted.

The showers and thunderstorms could continue overnight into Saturday, bringing heavy rain, but accumulation should be half an inch or less.

The rain should clear up by Saturday evening, with temps dropping from 84 to 67, giving way to a sunny Sunday that'll have a high near 80, so the weekend won't be a total loss.





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# Senate healthcare bill: Everything you need to know

Low- and middle-income Americans will pay more.



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Senate Republicans revealed their secretive healthcare bill Thursday, unveiling a plan that would impose deep cuts to Medicaid, try to defund abortion providers like Planned Parenthood and scale back tax credits for low- and middle-income Americans while slashing taxes on the nation's wealthiest citizens.

Thursday's unveiling of the bill that was written entirely behind closed doors is the first time Senate Democrats and much of the GOP conference have had a chance to take a look at the healthcare-reform bill, titled the "Better Care Reconciliation Act of 2017."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is pushing for a vote by the end of next week — which won't give Senate Democrats who were snubbed during the drafting process much time to review the 142-page bill.

To pass, the bill needs only a simple majority, which means McConnell can't lose more than two seats on the GOP side.

In the event of a 50-50 tie, Vice President Mike Pence will cast the deciding vote.

Here's a look at some of the major tenets of the Senate's healthcare bill:

**It eliminates the individual insurance mandate.**

The Obamacare mandate requiring individuals to purchase insurance would be eliminated under the Senate Republicans' healthcare plan.

**There are tax credits, but there's a catch.**

To help people afford insurance, the Senate bill proposes income-based tax credits that



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell before unveiling the healthcare plan on Thursday. GETTY IMAGES

are slightly less generous than what is currently offered under Obamacare. This is a change from the House healthcare bill, which proposed age-based tax credits that estimates said could cause premiums for older Americans to rise more than 700 percent — plan aims to make sure older Americans aren't penalized.

The Senate plan would make tax credits available for anyone earning up to 350 percent of the poverty level — about \$86,000 a year for a family of four. The Obamacare cap was 400 percent — about \$98,000 a year for a family of four.

The credits would be capped at a lower percentage of overall medical costs than those under Obamacare.

**It cuts Medicaid — a lot.**

Starting in 2020, millions of people would be rolled off of Medicaid, the federally funded health insurance program for low-income Americans.

The bill plans to wind down the Obamacare expansion which extended benefits to people making 138 percent of the federal poverty limit — about \$34,000 a year for a family of four. Those people would be tossed back into the individual insurance market where they would be eligible for tax credits, though they would no longer be mandated to purchase insurance.

**The bill has Medicaid work requirements.**

Low-income Americans still eligible to receive Medicaid could face work requirements. The bill would allow states to create provisions requiring people to maintain employment in order to keep their benefits. The provision would not apply to students, pregnant women or the disabled.

**Taxes for the wealthy are slashed**

A 3.8 percent tax on investment income for people earning more than \$200,000 a year would be repealed under the Senate healthcare plan, meaning taxes would fall predominantly for a small percentage of very wealthy Americans.

**It offers no funds for abortions.**

The bill would effectively defund Planned Parenthood, as it bars any funding allocated under the healthcare bill to be given to providers that offer abortion. Plans purchased using funding from the bill would not cover abortions under the bill.

**It establishes one-time grants to fight the opioid crisis.**

The bill would create a one-time \$2 billion fund for state programs that "support substance-use disorder treatment and recovery support services for individuals with mental or substance-use disorders."



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			2 people	\$15,532 - \$22,920
2 bedroom	\$482	3	2 people	\$18,515 - \$22,920
			3 people	\$18,515 - \$25,770
			4 people	\$18,515 - \$28,620
Studio	\$519	4	1 person	\$19,680 - \$26,720
1 bedroom	\$558	6	1 person	\$21,086 - \$26,720
			2 people	\$21,086 - \$30,560
2 bedroom	\$676	3	2 people	\$25,166 - \$30,560
			3 people	\$25,166 - \$34,360
			4 people	\$25,166 - \$38,160
1 bedroom	\$720	4	1 person	\$26,640 - \$33,400
			2 people	\$26,640 - \$38,200
2 bedroom	\$870	9	2 people	\$31,818 - \$38,200
			3 people	\$31,818 - \$42,950
			4 people	\$31,818 - \$47,700
Studio	\$822	1	1 person	\$30,069 - \$40,080
1 bedroom	\$882	1	1 person	\$32,195 - \$40,080
			2 people	\$32,195 - \$45,840
2 bedroom	\$1,065	20	2 people	\$38,503 - \$45,840
			3 people	\$38,503 - \$51,540
			4 people	\$38,503 - \$57,240
1 bedroom	\$1,254	7	1 person	\$44,949 - \$66,800
			2 people	\$44,949 - \$76,400
2 bedroom	\$1,511	10	2 people	\$53,795 - \$76,400
			3 people	\$53,795 - \$85,900
			4 people	\$53,795 - \$95,400

<sup>1</sup> Tenant pays electricity.

<sup>2</sup> Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

<sup>3</sup> Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income. Income guidelines subject to change.

<sup>4</sup> Minimum income listed may not apply to applicants with Section 8 or other qualifying rental subsidies. Asset limits also apply.

#### How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect). To request an application by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to: The Pavilion at Locust Manor, 100 Schoolhouse Rd, Levittown, NY 11756. Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

#### When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than **August 14, 2017**. Late applications will not be considered.

#### What Happens After You Submit an Application?

After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an interview to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Interviews are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.

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**简体中文** 访问 [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect) 在线申请。如要获取本广告及书面申请的简体中文版，请将您的回邮信封寄至：The Pavilion at Locust Manor, 100 Schoolhouse Rd, Levittown, NY 11756。信封背面请用英语注明 "CHINESE"。必须于以下日期之前在线提交申请或邮寄书面申请 **2017年8月14日**。

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# President Trump 'just doesn't want a poor person' in his cabinet

President Donald Trump said he'd prefer not to have a "poor person" in top economic positions in his administration during a 2020 campaign rally on Wednesday.

Despite campaign promises to "drain the swamp" of special and elitist interests in politics, since taking office in January, Trump has amassed one of the wealthiest Cabinets in the country's history.

His explanation? "I love all people, rich or poor, but in those particular positions, I just don't want a poor person. Does that make sense?" Trump asked a cheering crowd at the rally in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Trump told supporters he would consider a "poor person" for such



President Donald Trump explains why he doesn't think poor people should advise him. GETTY IMAGES

roles, if his supporters insisted.

"But I like it better this way," he said.

Trump picked billionaire Wilbur Ross, who made a fortune buying up distressed companies, as commerce secretary, and appointed Todd Ricketts, a member of the billionaire family that owns the Chicago Cubs, as his deputy.

"Somebody said, 'Why did you appoint a rich person to be in charge of the economy?' No, it's true. And Wilbur's a very rich person in charge of commerce,"

Trump said. "I said, 'Because that's the kind of thinking we want.'"

The Trump cabinet has been padded with the likes of Betsy DeVos, the billionaire education secretary, and — despite vocal condemnations of Hillary Clinton's ties to the Wall Street banks on the 2016 presidential campaign trail — Trump appointed former Goldman Sachs executive Steven Mnuchin as treasury secretary and picked former Goldman Sachs President Gary Cohn as one of his chief economic advisers.

ERIN TIERNAN

## POLITICS

**President Trump and his staff are illegally deleting messages, lawsuit alleges**

President Donald Trump and White House aides are breaking federal law by using encrypted messaging apps that keep their conversations off the public record, a federal lawsuit alleged.

Two Washington watchdog groups have accused the Trump administration of destroying electronic communications, including tweets, in violation of the Presidential Records Act, which mandates preservation of White House internal communications.

The groups, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington and the National Security Archive, filed the lawsuit Thursday morning in federal court in Washington.

"President Trump and others

within the White House are either ignoring or outright flouting these responsibilities," the suit reads.

Following Richard Nixon's presidency, Congress passed the Presidential Records Act in 1978, setting strict rules for the preservation of presidential records during a presidential term — including electronic messages like email, Facebook and Twitter.

Under the law, the federal government must maintain ownership and control of all presidential records, including records created by the president's staff.

The civil complaint notes that Trump has deleted several tweets since taking office and cites media reports that White House staffers have been communicating via Signal and Confide, messaging apps that delete messages after they are read. ERIN TIERNAN

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### Manhattan: **2/3** Rerouted Downtown

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- **3** service runs between **148 St** and **14 St**
- No trains at **Park Place** and **Wall St**; use nearby **Brooklyn Bridge** and **Wall St** **4/5** stations
- Free out-of-system transfer available between **South Ferry** **1/2** and **Bowling Green** **4/5**
- Transfer between **1/2** and **R** at **South Ferry-Whitehall St**
- Transfer at **Times Sq-42 St** for **N/Q/R** to **Brooklyn**

\*Weekends: Jun 16 – 19 and Jun 23 – 26, **Rector St** is the last stop for downtown **2** trains.

### Stay Informed

Call 511 and say "Current Service Status," look for informational posters in stations, or visit [mta.info](http://mta.info) – where you can access the latest Planned Service Changes information, use TripPlanner<sup>+</sup>, and sign up for free email and text alerts.

# Election hacking went much deeper than thought: Voter data manipulated and stolen

One senior official claimed that 21 states had voter databases breached during the 2016 election.



MICHAEL MARTIN  
@MetroPhilly  
letters@metro.us

Suggesting that the investigation into Russian hacking of U.S. voting systems has only just begun, officials said on

Wednesday that the extent of the hacking was much deeper than originally reported: Russian hackers were able to obtain and change voter information – and steal tens of thousands of voter records, including

social security numbers.

This follows a separate story earlier this week that the extent of the hacking was deeper than originally reported, so for those keeping score, this is deeper than that.

Time magazine reported that an ongoing investigation found that voter data was manipulated in one local database, but found and corrected. It's unclear whether that was committed by Russian agents.

But Congressional investigators also found that in Illinois, 90,000 voter records were stolen by Russian hackers – 90 percent of them included driver's license numbers, with a quarter containing the last four digits of voters' social security numbers.

As part of the investigation into whether President Donald Trump or his associates colluded with Russia to influence the 2016 presidential campaign, the investigators are looking into whether that data made it to the Trump campaign.

"If any campaign, Trump or otherwise, used inappropriate data, the questions are: How did they get it? From whom? And with what

level of knowledge?" said Michael Bahar, the former top Democratic staffer on the House Intelligence Committee. "That is a crux of the investigation."

A connection has not yet been found, Time reported.

In a Senate hearing this week, a senior official from the Department of Homeland Security said that 21 states had their voter databases breached by hackers during the 2016 election.

None of the intrusions affected the vote totals, a number of officials said during the hearings.

Regardless of what more is found, the current revelations about hacking could have a pernicious, long-lasting result, officials said. "The integrity of the entire system is in question," says Bahar. "So you need the system to push back and find out what happened and why, so it never happens again."

*"If any campaign, Trump or otherwise, used inappropriate data, the questions are: How did they get it? From whom? And with what level of knowledge?"*

Michael Bahar, former top Democratic staffer on the House Intelligence Committee



Officials have repeated that the data breaches did not affect overall vote totals.  
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					2 people	\$32,195 - \$45,840
2 bedroom		\$1,065	43	→	2 people	\$38,503 - \$45,840
					3 people	\$38,503 - \$51,540
					4 people	\$38,503 - \$57,240
3 bedroom		\$1,224	9	→	3 people	\$44,538 - \$51,540
					4 people	\$44,538 - \$57,240
					5 people	\$44,538 - \$61,860
					6 people	\$44,538 - \$66,420

<sup>1</sup> Rent includes gas for cooking.

<sup>2</sup> Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

<sup>3</sup> Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income. Income guidelines subject to change.

<sup>4</sup> Minimum income listed may not apply to applicants with Section 8 or other qualifying rental subsidies. Asset limits also apply.

## How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect). To request an application **by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to: 530 Exterior Street, c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 87-14 116<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418**. Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

## When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than **August 18, 2017**. Late applications will not be considered.

## What Happens After You Submit an Application?

After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an interview to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Interviews are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.

<b>Español</b>	Presente una solicitud en línea en <a href="http://nyc.gov/housingconnect">nyc.gov/housingconnect</a> . Para recibir una traducción de español de este anuncio y la solicitud impresa, envíe un sobre con la dirección a: <b>530 Exterior Street, c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 87-14 116<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418</b> . En el reverso del sobre, escriba en inglés la palabra "SPANISH." Las solicitudes se deben enviar en línea o con sello postal antes de <b>18 de agosto 2017</b> .
<b>简体中文</b>	访问 <a href="http://nyc.gov/housingconnect">nyc.gov/housingconnect</a> 在线申请。如要获取本广告及书面申请表的简体中文版, 请将您的回邮信封寄送至: <b>530 Exterior Street, c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 87-14 116<sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418</b> .. 信封背面请用英语注明 "CHINESE"。必须于以下日期之前在线提交申请或邮寄书面申请 <b>2017年8月18日</b> 。
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# The Coney Island Cyclone is looking good at age 90

Celebrate the Boardwalk's oldest resident, the Coney Island Cyclone roller coaster, with a block party and a performance by Fabolous.



EVA KIS  
@thisiskis  
eva.kis@metro.us

You can only wish to be as spry as the Coney Island Cyclone at age 90.

The Boardwalk's first roller coaster officially celebrates nine decades of entertaining thrill-seekers on June 26, but who wants to celebrate their birthday on a Monday? Instead, Luna Park is celebrating its most famous ride with a block party this Sunday, June 25, beginning at 2 p.m., featuring a performance



Happy 90th, Coney Island Cyclone. GETTY IMAGES

by Fabolous, some fab moves by the Harlem Globetrotters and lots of family-friendly fun.

Of course, you'll also want to take a ride, which will run you \$10 these days (it started at 25 cents!). Coney Island Brewery even created a limited-edition beer in

its honor called 90 Years Young, an intensely fruity double IPA perfect for the summer.

If you do swing by the roller coaster on Monday, Luna Park is offering 90 cent rides for the first 90 minutes that the Cyclone is open (noon-1:30 p.m.). The

first 90 riders in line will also receive a free hot dog from the recently revived Feltman's of Coney Island, the Boardwalk's original hot dog stand.

Credited with inventing the hot dog-in-a-bun concept in 1867, Feltman's foundered after

one of its employees, Nathan Handwerker, opened his competing stand across the street. Feltman's eventually closed in 1954, but 150 years later, it's back at its original location at the corner of Surf Avenue and West 10th Street. Try both and see which hot dog should rule the Boardwalk.

Opened in 1927, the Cyclone has 12 drops, with its highest reaching a butt-clenching 85 feet. The whole ride takes just under two minutes to zoom, turn and whoosh its way down 2,650 feet of tracks.

Thanks to an extensive refurbishment in 2016, the wooden roller coaster's speed has been upped to over 60mph — not bad for a nonagenarian, and certainly the fastest entry on the National Register of His-

toric Places, where it was inducted in 1991.

Given its current popularity — though not the tallest or fastest, the Cyclone holds a special place in the hearts of thrill ride enthusiasts — it's hard to imagine Coney Island without it. But that's what almost happened in 1972, when the New York Aquarium moved to redevelop the site until New Yorkers intervened with a Save the Cyclone campaign.

Being an icon of the Boardwalk means the Cyclone has been a bit of a celebrity magnet, from Michael Jackson stopping to film "The Wiz" to Beyonce taking a spin for her music video to "XO."

So raise a Boardwalk classic egg cream to the Cyclone this Sunday — just don't drink it right before you ride.



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# TESTING 1,2,3

So, according to President Trump, there are no tapes. No muffled words captured by a microphone hidden in a lamp. No "smoking gun" statements snagged by a recorder in a vest pocket. No electronic record of what was said between President Trump and his FBI director, James Comey, right before Comey was given the boot.

That's a shame. Because for several weeks here as the president winked and nodded at the idea, D.C. had a nice, sneaky, "Spy vs. Spy" feel.

In case you don't know the backstory: Comey was sacked in early May and soon leaked notes of his private meetings with the president, hinting – yeah, the president maybe/kind of sort of was trying to shut down the Russian hacking investigation, at least as it pertained to members of Team Trump. The president has denied it and responded on Twitter by saying, "Comey better hope that there are no 'tapes' of our conversations..."

## TOM FOREMAN Opinion



The implication was that such tapes would refute Comey's version of events. For his part, Comey suggested such recordings would instead prove his case, telling Congress, "Lordy, I hope there are tapes!" But apparently, the Lord was not listening, because now President Trump has tweeted, "I did not make, and I do not have, any such recordings."

So why did he even suggest there might tapes? Some White House operatives are spinning a Machiavellian explanation about pressuring Comey to tell the truth under oath.

Others are saying it was... you know... just one of those things the president says.

For my part, I think it was the president doing what he does remarkably well – drawing the focus of the discussion away from things he does not like seeing in the news (i.e. the Russian investigation, his legislative struggles, Republican infighting and conflict-of-interest questions) and toward something that doesn't matter. I suspect he knew he could twist this town into knots for weeks by merely hinting there might be something steamier, more dramatic than a mere investigation. And then when the issue had distracted folks long enough, he could simply shrug, smile and say what he knew all along. The conversations were not recorded.

But misleading the public, Congress and other officials this way is a type of deception the president seems all too willing to employ.

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# For Alison Brie, 'GLOW' is a dream come true

wknd

Alison Brie gives you '80s wrestling luxury as Ruth in "GLOW," only on Netflix. ERICA PARISE/NETFLIX

The actress takes on her first leading role.



RACHAEL VAUGHAN CLEMMONS  
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rachael.clemmons@metro.us

If you run into Alison Brie, ask her to show you her sweet wrestling moves. "A lot of people want me to pull these moves out as a party trick," says Brie. "I'm just a pro-wrestler now," she quips.

That's not too far from the truth. The actress is starring in Netflix's latest series, "GLOW," which follows the personal and professional lives of a ragtag group of misfit women transforming themselves into the Gorgeous Ladies of Wrestling. It's a delicious trip to the '80s and Brie, who plays Ruth, is right at the center. "I really felt like a team captain," she says over the phone, upbeat. "I wanted to re-

ally prove myself while working on the role."

It's Brie's first go at leading a television show. And the 34-year-old — who is perhaps most popular for her roles in "Mad Men" as Trudy Campbell and "Community" as Annie Edison — fought damn hard for it.

"I was told kind of early on that people weren't sure if I was quite right for the part," she says. "You audition for certain things and you're like, 'Oh this would be a cool job, but I don't know if I'm quite right for this part.' And there are other things that I read and it's immediately like, 'This is my role!' ["GLOW" was one of those.]

Premiering Friday, we'll finally get to see her as a bona fide wrestler babe. One that discovered pretty early on that wrestling is a bit more, let's say, intimate than other sports. "The

first bigger move that I learned for the show is the headscissor. And learning the headscissor [my stunt double] was like, 'Basically you want your vagina to hit [your opponent's] chin, and that's how you know you're in the right position. If you feel contact, you did it right.' We were like 'oh!'" She laughs, hard. "Great!"

And even though she doesn't do party tricks yet, she has taken her new moves on the road. "I did put Larry King in a headlock [a few] days ago, and that was kind of cool," she says. Brie's quick to assure though, it wasn't hard-core. "It was a very gentle headlock."

Even outside of showing Larry King her wrestling prowess, the Los Angeles native can't be stopped. The actress was recently announced for "The Papers," a film to be directed by Ste-

ven Spielberg and starring Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep. "I'm just as shocked, trust me!" she says, in disbelief. Plus, "The Little Hours," ("This is the most difficult movie to describe. Raunchy medieval nun comedy?") is coming later this month, and "BoJack Horseman" later this year.

She's enthusiastic about the return of the animated series, which sees her voicing Diane Nguyen, the rare human in an anthropomorphic world. "This is so rude to Diane, but given her behavior, I almost want to see her as a sloth," Brie says. "She's deadpan a lot of the time, and she has gone through periods of not knowing what —" Brie starts talking slowly, imitating



whatever it is a sloth might sound like — "she wants to dooo." She laughs, again. "It's not a perfect fit, but you know!"

But for now, "GLOW" — with its imminent release and near-constant press — is her main focus.

"It was really a dream come true," she says. "It sounds so boring, but I was just grateful and excited. And more than anything I just wanted to do a really do a good job."

For what it's worth, Brie is anything but boring. She's warm, she has a quick wit and — as she's mentioned many, many times — she's grateful. "There's nothing more fun than working on a comedy and getting to laugh with everyone," she says. Good thing "GLOW" is a riot.



# How the internet turned us all crazy

Kumail Nanjiani and Emily V. Gordon talk "The Big Sick" and being cool with their parents.



MATT PRIGGE  
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matt.prigge@metro.us

For the record, Kumail Nanjiani and Emily V. Gordon have great relationships with their parents. The couple wrote the dramatic comedy "The Big Sick," which is based on their lives — specifically on their courtship, when a nasty case of the flu plunged her into a month-long coma.

But their onscreen parents aren't quite the same as the real

deal. The movie version of Emily (played by Zoe Kazan) has parents (Holly Hunter and Ray Romano) who are easily flustered, often bickering. Meanwhile, film Kumail (played by Nanjiani himself) is afraid to tell his traditional Pakistani family (Anupam Kher and Zenobia Shroff) he's dating a white American.

"My parents pretty



Kumail Nanjiani and Emily V. Gordon  
GETTY IMAGES

much said, 'Oh, it's only a movie. It's not like us at all,'" says Gordon.

Nanjiani's mother and father had a different response.

"For them it was weird. They were like, 'How is this going to be a comedy? Some really awful things happened to us, and you're going to make fun of it?'" recalls Nanjiani. "I had to say, 'We're not making fun of it. We're going to keep it real.'"

The result is a Sundance hit that also winds up saying as much about parental relationships as it does about love.



In "The Big Sick," in theaters today, Kumail Nanjiani spends a lot of time with his girlfriend's parents, played by Holly Hunter and Ray Romano. NICOLE RIVELLI

## People can be awful

In real life, Nanjiani is a prolific Twitterer, sometimes going after politicians who cross the line. Being on social media also means he sometimes attracts the worst of humanity, who pelt him with bigoted comments.

"On Twitter, I hear that stuff all the time," Nanjiani explains. "It's so strange: We're

at this point where people feel OK saying, 'I'm not for race-mixing.' People feel that's a valid opinion to have, and you can just say it. The internet empowers people to say it in real life, too. There's people in the House of Representatives that say that s—. How is it OK that this person feels OK saying this and they aren't run out of town?"

Nanjiani has a theory about what drove people to become so insane: "How people would

talk in real life used to be how they would talk on the internet. They would be polite and normal. And slowly this anonymity thing happened, and they turned into trolls, became harsh to each other. The way we talk on the internet is now reflecting back on us. There are so many people who talk more on the internet than they do in real life. That becomes their primary way of engaging with people. Then it affects how you are in real life."

"Sometimes there are certain things you have to take out of your relationship with your parents," Nanjiani says. "With your

parents, there are certain things you disagree on, and every time you go to them it's going to be a s— show. It's OK to be

like, 'We have a relationship, we love each other, but there's this one thing we're just not going to talk about.'"

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# Your 2017 summer bucket list

Now that summer has officially begun, we've got your to-do list to make the most of it.



HALEY CHOUINARD  
@MetroNewYork  
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## Visit the Bronx Zoo

Zoos don't get much better than the historic Bronx Zoo. Its 265 acres of attractions (featuring every animal you can think of) adds some impressive new human exhibits, such as a zipline that takes you across the Bronx River and a giant ropes course. An entire day can easily be spent enjoying all the zoo has to offer. [bronxzoo.com](http://bronxzoo.com)

## Make a day of it at Coney Island

The seaside carnival still has all of its classic charms, while keeping pace with new trends.



Visit the Bronx Zoo's new herd of bison this summer.  
JULIE LARSON MAHER

Two new virtual-reality rides (including a roller coaster!), a rooftop bar, the recently refurbished amphitheater and the return of NYC's largest outdoor art gallery, Coney Art Walls, means it's never been a better time to get out to the boardwalk. [coneyisland.com](http://coneyisland.com)

## Ride the NYC Ferry

Why spend your summer sitting underground? For the same fare as a subway ride, you can relax and take in the city's spectacular skyline on the NYC Ferry. New routes will get you from Wall Street to Williamsburg, Long Island City to Governors Island and all the way to Rockaway. Plus, the subway doesn't have a coffee bar and beer and wine on tap. [ferry.nyc](http://ferry.nyc)

## MoMa PSI warm-up

Now in its 20th year, the Museum of Modern Art's venue for up-and-coming artists resumes its popular concert series every Saturday of the summer, from July 1 through Sept. 2. Come for the music, stay for the cutting-edge exhibits and the most casual outdoor party you'll ever attend at a museum. [moma.org](http://moma.org)

## Eat something new at Smorgasburg

Taste the trends before they hit restaurants at the largest weekly open-air food market in America. Taking place every Saturday on the waterfront in Williamsburg and Sunday in Prospect Park, over 100 local vendors will keep you exploring new foods all summer. Coming in July: an all-star SoHo edition that's open all week. [smorgasburg.com](http://smorgasburg.com)



Smorgasburg  
JON VON PAMER

## Walk the High Line

The urban-renewal project being replicated around the world remains a must-do for New Yorkers and visitors. The elevated rail line runs from West 34th Street to Gansevoort Street and makes for a lovely stroll, with art exhibits, musical performances and free activities from yoga to stargazing. [thehighline.org](http://thehighline.org)

## New York Botanical Garden becomes a (night) gallery

This summer's major installation at the Bronx garden takes over not just one area but all of its 250 acres, with Dale Chihuly's fantastical glass sculptures popping out of flowerbeds and streams. The best way to fully appreciate them is on select Chihuly Nights, when more than 20 installations are lit up under the evening sky to grand effect. [nybg.org](http://nybg.org)

## The Cloisters await

A quick trip on the A train will take you up to Washington Heights, where, deep in Fort Tryon Park lies the Cloisters. Part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Cloisters are dedicated to the art, architecture and gardens of medieval Europe. The setting and surrounding views of the Hudson River are so transporting, you may forget you're still in Manhattan. Come on a Friday, when the museum stays open late for special events. [metmuseum.org](http://metmuseum.org)

## Rock out in the park

Take out your earbuds and see many of your favorite bands live — often free — in city parks this summer. From Yeasayer and Andrew Bird at Prospect Park's BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn! series to acts like Ginuwine and Yo La Tengo at SummerStage, every music lover can find something to groove to. [cityparksfoundation.org](http://cityparksfoundation.org)



Rock out at MoMA PS1's Warm Up. PROVIDED

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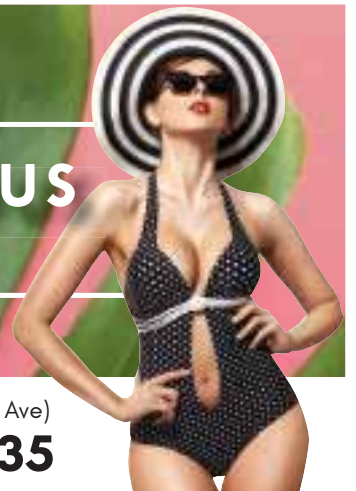
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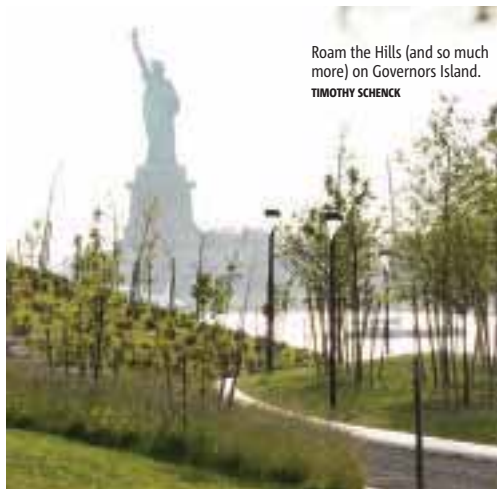


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Get into the 1920s groove at the Jazz Age Lawn Party. J. KRATOCHVIL



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Astoria's beloved Bohemian Hall & Beer Garden has been around since before Prohibition, making it the city's oldest beer garden. With a weekday happy hour that boasts \$4 mugs of craft beer, Bohemian Hall is an essential rite of summer. [bohemianhall.com](http://bohemianhall.com)

out on the lake and soak up those sweet summer rays.

[thecentralparkboathouse.com](http://thecentralparkboathouse.com)



New York Botanical Garden PROVIDED

## Row a boat in Central Park

Sure, there are tons of ways to get out on the water in NYC, but none has the cinematic charm of rowing a boat in Central Park. Head to the beautiful Loeb Boathouse, where a fleet of 100 rowboats awaits. For \$15 an hour, you can take a boat

## Go back in time at the Jazz Age Lawn Party

Considered the largest Prohibition-themed gathering in the world, the Jazz Age Lawn Party is the perfect opportunity to

get your Gatsby on. Held under the summer sky as a picnic with hundreds of flappers and dapper gents doing the Charleston on the dance floor, you don't need a time machine to feel the excitement and optimism of the 1920s. Aug. 26-27; [jazzagelawn-party.com](http://jazzagelawn-party.com)

## Taste the world at Queens International Night Market

New Yorkers don't need to travel to eat some of the less-known cuisines of the world — you just need to go to Flushing Meadows Corona Park. On Saturday nights beginning at 6 p.m., the Queens International Night Market brings together nearly 100 vendors that represent the borough's rich cultural diversity, selling everything from mochi waffles to Barbadian fish cakes. [queensnightmarket.com](http://queensnightmarket.com)

## Ride the boat to Governors Island

You don't need to be attending a ticketed event to enjoy all that Governors Island has to offer. A short ferry ride from downtown Manhattan, the 172-acre island boasts rich military history, ample paths for bike riding, a grove of hammocks, stunning views of the Statue of Liberty, a minigolf course and food and drink options. Open through Oct. 1, [govisland.com](http://govisland.com)

## See what's new at Brooklyn Bridge Park

No other NYC park has as much going on as this 1.3-mile stretch of waterfront. For summer 2017, Brooklyn Bridge Park boasts a new picnic area and maritime museum to go with its perfect grassy hills for scenic picnics and ice cream, lobster rolls and cocktails, all right on the water.

## See a movie under the stars

Summer fun is not just for weekends. There are movies playing outdoors in parks, on rooftops and beaches every day of the week, from the classics in Bryant Park to a celebrity-curated French film series in Transmitter Park and '80s classics at Rooftop Reds, the city's only vineyard.

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## "Transformers: The Last Knight"

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Give "Transformers: The Last Knight" credit: It opens with King Arthur. This summer's other lumbering, endless fivequel, the latest "Pirates of the Caribbean," simply began with some more ships. From stem to stern, "The Last Knight" is the rantings of a madman. Within its first minutes, we'll see a drunk Merlin (Stanley Tucci!). Later, there will be a flashback to Nazi Germany. Marky Mark will paraphrase Arthur C. Clarke. All this, and a robot voiced by "Downtown Abbey's" Jim Carter quoting Ludacris while Anthony Hopkins chuckles, too.

Michael Bay's "Transformers" movies have always come off like a frat boy playing with toys, but "The Last Knight" is next-level, white-hot nonsense. It has more plot than usual, some of it followable, all of it

deranged. The gubmint has declared war on Transformers, falsely painting them as all bad. Maybe you think this is commentary on immigration. Don't bother. You can sense Bay trying to be a little progressive, then getting bored and reverting to classic him. He introduces a teen orphan girl (Isabel Moner) as one of his heroes. But eventually Bay replaces her with a hot grown-up woman (Laura Haddock) who dresses in "stripper clothes." Asking Bay not to be a pig is like asking fish not to swim.

Combined, the "Transformers" cycle now runs longer than Jacques Rivette's 12-hour French epic "Out 1," only it's considerably less fun. But we'd be lying if we said this last one wasn't gripping, even if it's gripping in the manner of our president's Twitter feed. If nothing else, it's not boring — until its climax of CGI vomit, which really doesn't make any sense. **MATT PRIGGE**

## "The Big Sick"

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Comedies are a little long in the age of Judd Apatow. The comic god produced "The Big Sick," a very funny though very serious movie based on a hairy episode in the life of its star, Kumail Nanjiani ("Silicon Valley"). It runs just shy of two hours. But here's a case where more is indeed more. This is a comedy that needs room to breathe, that would feel gutted if it ran a mere hour-and-a-half.

There's a lot of plot — a lot of based-on-a-true-story horrors to get through. It's a story of courtship, namely the one between its two screenwriters: Nanjiani and his wife Emily V. Gordon (played by Zoe Kazan). They meet-cute when she heckles his stand-up act. It's an uneasy love story even before it gets to the wildest part: One night Emily, as she did in real life, fell sick and slipped into a coma. Kumail winds up playing the waiting game in the hospital, awkwardly befriending her frazzled Midwestern parents, Beth and Terry (Holly

Hunter and Ray Romano), who aren't always sure how to bridge the cultural divide.

There are a lot of scenes in the hospital. There are a lot of scenes of Kumail and Beth and Terry hanging out, getting to know each other, getting drunk and stress-eating after-hours delivery pizza. Technically it's repetitive. But it's repetitive in the manner of a chair being whittled out of oak. Besides, it's good company. Hunter and Romano are a hard screen pair to beat — she's grouchy and sometimes almost feral; he's endearingly aloof and prone to praise "Forrest Gump."

You could shave five or 10 minutes off of "The Big Sick," but it would require surgical precision. It feels like an entire small world, and the script doesn't feel compelled to tie up all loose ends or provide easy resolutions, even for Kumail's problems with his traditional Pakistani parents. That's not sloppiness; that, not its running time — which, frankly, isn't even that long — is what makes it feel big. **MP**



Kumail Nanjiani and Zoe Kazan get a first-rate meet-cute in "The Big Sick." **SARAH SHATZ**



Kirsten Dunst tries to get some Colin Farrell in Sofia Coppola's "The Beguiled." **BEN ROTHSTEIN, FOCUS FEATURES**

## "The Beguiled"

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The original "The Beguiled" sounds, as they say today, "problematic." For starters, it stars Clint Eastwood. Made in 1971, this Southern Gothic potboiler finds the era's manliest man playing a wounded Union soldier during the Civil War, trapped in an all-girls school with repressed women. It doesn't end well. It sounds like exactly the kind of film that should be remade by one of our most acclaimed female filmmakers, only right this time.

But not so fast. The original is actually great — a fascinating war between the lurid and the sensitive. And Sofia Coppola's loose (but not that loose) remake is fascinating in some of the same ways, even as it views the same story through a female lens. Nicole Kidman, Kirsten Dunst and Elle Fanning are the women tending to — and often

ogling — a quietly predatory Colin Farrell, who thinks he's a fox in a henhouse but may be the one who's really the chicken.

Coppola spends most of her efforts highlighting female horniness. She dwells on charged glances, slack-jawed stares, Kidman slowly washing Farrell's shirtless bod. There's only one sex scene, and it lacks a lick of flesh, but this is one sexy movie.

"The Beguiled" may be the most audience-friendly film Coppola's made, but it's still a Sofia Coppola movie. Like "The Virgin Suicides" and "The Bling Ring," it's another languid hang in a cloistered (and, yes, blindingly white) microcosm, away from the outside world. It must be said that Coppola slightly bungles the shocker of a climax; the original did it better. Her version is at its best before the release, when it's all about the sick tension bubbling under the surface like red hot lava. **MP**

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# Knicks take Frank Ntilikina with the 8th pick at 2017 NBA draft

New York stayed put and nabbed the youngster out of France.



JOE PANTORNO  
@JoePantorno  
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

A tense few days for New York Knicks fans drew to a close in exciting fashion as the team selected Frank Ntilikina with the eighth-overall selection in Thursday night's 2017 NBA draft.

The Knicks' plan for this year's draft had been skewed over the last few days with reports surfacing that team president Phil Jackson was willing to listen to trade offers for star Kristaps Porzingis.

Largely thought to take a guard, whether it was NC State's Dennis Smith, Ntilikina or

Kentucky's Malik Monk, Arizona big man Lauri Markkanen was thrown into the mix as Porzingis' replacement should he have been dealt. Markkanen was taken seventh overall by the Chicago Bulls.

The Knicks also had reported interested in Kansas' Josh Jackson. But the top-four product could only have been acquired if the Knicks traded up with the Phoenix Suns. Once again, that would have likely involved Porzingis.

For holding steadfast and keeping Porzingis, the Knicks have been rewarded with a work in progress that could very well become one of the game's top two-way point guards in Ntilikina.

While it's a little more common to see a point guard with size to



The New York Knicks selected France's Frank Ntilikina with the eighth pick of the 2017 NBA draft. GETTY IMAGES

day, a 6-foot-5 floor general is a nice addition to the Knicks' backcourt.

Ntilikina would provide some added defense at the position, which

would provide a sizable boost, especially near the perimeter.

At the FIBA U18 European Championships this winter, the Frenchman averaged 2.2 steals and 1.2 blocks per game.

On the offensive side of the ball, Ntilikina has the ability to be a lethal, well-rounded scorer as long as he can learn to control his body near the basket.

His outside game is solid, averaging over 58-percent from 3-point range in six games at the European Championships.

When the shot isn't there, he's had no trouble getting rid of the ball, averaging 4.5 assists per game.

The Knicks now have a foundation within the backcourt to build upon as he will be working definitely be working with Courtney Lee, Porzingis and Willy Hernanomez.

## Quick Hits

### James Dolan nowhere near Knicks on draft night

You know how almost everyone says that James Dolan is unfit to be the owner of the New York Knicks? Well, you can chalk up another tally in that department on Thursday.

While team president Phil Jackson attempted to run the team into the ground by fielding trade offers for franchise star Kristaps Porzingis leading up to Thursday night's draft, Dolan was playing a gig with his band, JD & The Straight Shot, at the City Winery during the NBA's selection process.

That's right, while the Knicks were looking as though they were crashing and burning while their fans were praying to the powers that be for someone to save them and their young Latvian star Porzingis, Dolan was strumming his guitar with his pals at a winery, shut off from the chaos that is his organization.

It doesn't get more comical than that, folks.

Then again, Dolan, Jackson and Knicks management might take that as a challenge.

# Porzingis remains a Knick

New York's young star stayed put despite a frenzy of trade rumors before the draft.



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It was anything but calm leading in the final days, but Kristaps Porzingis is still a member of the New York Knicks.

The young Latvian star was inexplicably put on the trading block by team president Phil Jackson on Wednesday despite Porzingis' steady development toward being one of the top players in the league.

Porzingis averaged 18.1 points and 7.2 rebounds per game during his sophomore campaign in the NBA while holding an ability to score from anywhere on the floor.

A player that big (7-foot-3) just doesn't come around every season.

However Porzingis got on Jackson's bad side when he skipped out on his end-of-season exit interviews with Knicks management.

The ever-so-proud Jackson explained on Wednesday night to MSG Network "when a guy doesn't show up for an exit meeting, everybody starts speculating on the duration or movability from a club."

The calls came flying in from numerous teams like the Boston Celtics, Philadelphia 76ers and Phoenix Suns over the 48-hour period, though Jackson's asking price was deemed to be far too high for any team to actually pull the trigger even though.

Jackson hinted that "two starters and a draft pick," could be enough to ship Porzingis off elsewhere.



Despite the multitude of trade rumors, Kristaps Porzingis is still a member of the Knicks. GETTY IMAGES

However, sources told ESPN that when the Celtics inquired, Jackson demanded Boston's No. 3 pick from Thursday night's draft, another lottery pick and a player like Jae Crowder and Jaylen Brown.

But as the night progressed, it went from a Porzingis trade being almost a certainty to Jackson simply thumping his chest and showing that at the end of the day, he is calling the shots.

If this was nothing

more than a lesson for Porzingis not to take management lightly, it was a terrifying one for the countless fans that believed the Knicks' future was going to be dealt as a part of a petty feud.

# Islanders add offensive punch, acquire Eberle from Oilers for Strome

The Isles were in need of support for John Tavares. They got it on Thursday with Jordan Eberle.



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The New York Islanders have been in desperate need of scoring help for captain John Tavares.

Set to hit free agency in the summer of 2018, general manager Garth Snow had to show the All-Star that he and the team is committed to winning.

They took a big step in the right direction on Thursday.

The Islanders acquired forward Jordan Eberle from the Edmonton Oilers just hours after the NHL lifted its trade freeze in return for forward Ryan Strome.

The 27-year-old Eberle has seven NHL seasons under his belt and

will be placed into a system where he will given a larger role similar to his earlier years in Edmonton. Before the arrivals of Connor McDavid, Leon Draisaitl and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Eberle was one of the Oilers' premier offensive forces, scoring 34 goals during the 2011-12 season and 28 two years later.

Despite playing in all 82 games last year, Eberle averaged a career-low 16:46 time on the ice and still managed to put up 20 goals and 31 assists.

"We're excited to add a proven offensive weapon like Jordan to our lineup," Islanders president and general manager Garth Snow said. "He brings speed and a knack for scoring not only consistently, but scoring big goals in big games. Jordan brings leadership and experience into our room, qualities that will continue to help us build



Jordan Eberle will enjoy a much more prominent role with the Islanders compared to his time in Edmonton. GETTY IMAGES

towards our goals of being a consistent playoff contender and winning the Stanley Cup."

The right winger can play on either the first line, flanking Tavares and Anders Lee, or move to the second line if the team is commit-

ted to keeping Josh Ho-Sang with the top unit. Eberle is signed through the 2018-19 season before becoming an unrestricted free agent.

For a player that has been in trade talks for a few years now, the deal actually has provided

Eberle with a sense of comfort.

"A trade has been talked about for a while now," he said. "I'm relieved to have it over with. Now I'm looking for a fresh new start."

He'll get just that with a team that is slow-

ly evolving back into a contender within the Metropolitan Division headlined by Tavares.

"John is a generational player," Eberle said. "He sees the game at a remarkable level and I'm looking forward to playing with him."

He has no doubt that he'll keep up with Tavares, too.

"There's always pressure here. The NHL is a tough league," Eberle said. "You have to be confident that you belong in a top-six role and I've proven that."

Amazingly, the Islanders did not have to part with any of their defensive trade assets including Calvin de Haan and Travis Hamonic, who have been garnering plenty of interest on the trade market during the early portions of the offseason.

That means the team is still in the running for the likes of Colorado Avalanche forward Matt Duchene.

## Big3 debuts at Barclays on Sunday

Ice Cube's vision of giving retired stars another chance to play is about to come to fruition.



JOE PANTORNO  
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joseph.pantorno@metro.us

Basketball fans, prepare for a blast from the past.

The Big3, which is a league created by rapper Ice Cube, has assembled some of your favorite names from your childhood and created an eight-team, 3-on-3 league that is debuting at Barclays Center on Sunday:

### 3's Company

**Captain:** Allen Iverson  
**Co-captain:** DerMarr Johnson  
**Players:** Andre Owens

**Mike Sweetney**  
**Ruben Patterson**  
**Al Thornton**  
**Player Coach:** Allen Iverson  
**Reserve:** David Hawkins

### Killer 3's

**Captain:** Chauncey Billups  
**Co-captain:** Stephen Jackson  
**Players:** Reggie Evans  
Larry Hughes  
Brian Cook  
**Player Coach:** Charles Oakley  
**Reserve:** Eddie Robinson

### Tri-State

**Captain:** Jermaine O'Neal  
**Co-captain:** Bonzi Wells  
**Players:** Xavier Silas  
Lee Nailon  
Mike James  
**Coach:** Julius Erving  
**Reserve:** Lou Amundson

### 3 Headed Monsters

**Captain:** Rashard Lewis  
**Co-captain:** Jason Williams  
**Players:** Kwame Brown  
Eddie Basden  
Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf  
**Coach:** Gary Payton  
**Reserve:** Hakim Warrick

### Trilogy

**Captain:** Kenyon Martin  
**Co-captain:** Al Harrington  
**Players:** Rashad McCants  
James White  
Dion Glover  
**Coach:** Rick Mahorn  
**Reserve:** Jannero Pargo

### Ghost Ballers

**Captain:** Mike Bibby  
**Co-captain:** Ricky Davis

**Players:** Mo Evans  
Marcus Banks  
Ivan Johnson  
**Coach:** George Gervin  
**Reserve:** Joe Smith

### Ball Hogs

**Captain:** Brian Scalabrine  
**Co-captain:** Josh Childress

**Players:** Derrick Byars  
Rasual Butler  
Dominic McGuire  
**Coach:** Rick Barry  
**Reserve:** Desmon Farmer

### Power

**Captain:** Corey Maggette

**Co-captain:** Cuttino Mobley  
**Players:** Jerome Williams  
DeShawn Stevenson  
Moochie Norris  
**Coach:** Clyde Drexler  
**Reserve:** Paul McPherson



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Attorney(s) for Plaintiff(s):  
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INDEX NO. 706890/2014  
Arthur N. Terranova, Esq., Referee

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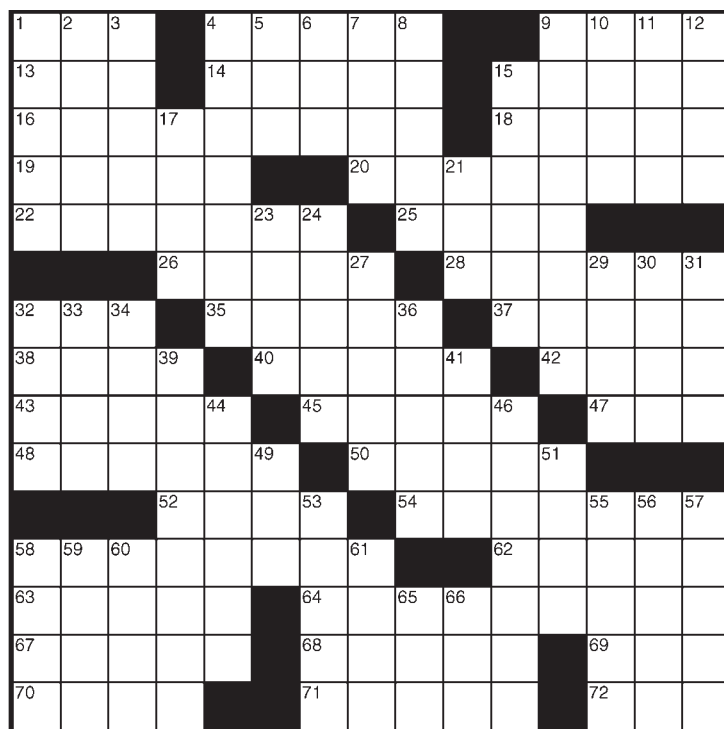
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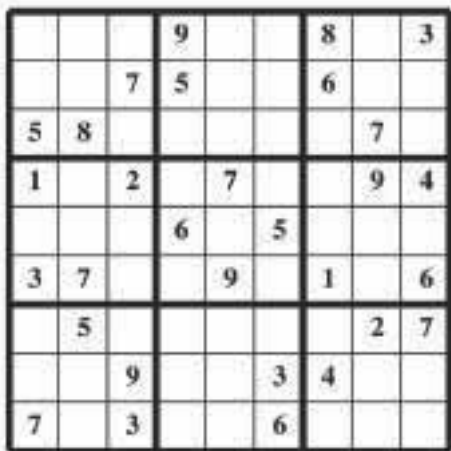
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- 58 Disney or Whitman
- 59 On a cruise
- 60 Getz or Mikita
- 61 Fleece
- 65 Shakespearean oath
- 66 Spacewalk, to NASA

## metro.us/crossword



## metro.us/sudoku

easy



hard



## metro.us/horoscopes



**Aries** Having a discussion with someone who has more experience than you will help you make an important decision about your future. Verify any information you are given.



**Taurus** Don't believe everything you hear. One of your peers will purposefully mislead you. Stay on top of the facts and be secretive about your endeavors.



**Gemini** Partnership issues will need to be addressed. Reveal how you want to move forward and find out exactly where you stand. Focus on equality.



**Cancer** Keep your plans secret until you are ready to move forward if you want to avoid someone meddling in your affairs. Consider your motives before you make a change.



**Leo** Evaluate what you are being told by someone close to you, and make adjustments as necessary. Love can cloud your vision, causing you to make bad choices.



**Virgo** Discover what life has to offer. Network with people who share your interests to find inspiration to develop new relationships and expand your dreams.



**Libra** If you share your plans with someone close to you, together you will bring about positive change. A joint effort will lessen your burden and encourage success.



**Scorpio** If you share your plans with someone close to you, together you will bring about positive change. A joint effort will lessen your burden and encourage success.



**Sagittarius** Keep changes at home to a minimum. Staying within your budget regardless of the temptations you face will help to maintain a sense of financial security.



**Capricorn** If you live within your means and avoid unwise choices, you'll avoid an unnecessary setback. Focus on keeping life simple and spending time with those you love.



**Aquarius** Make personal changes before you try to change someone else. A child or friend will give a glimpse into how others view you by revealing something that they overheard.



**Pisces** Making home improvements or hosting an event is highlighted. If you use imagination, you will come up with an idea that will please the people you love. **EUGENIA LAST**

## Yesterday's answers



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